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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kauko PALO et al

Serial No.: New

Filing Date: June 29, 2001

For: A METHOD OF CHARACTERIZING FLUORESCENT MOLECULES OR
OTHER PARTICLES USING GENERATING FUNCTIONS#5/A
17 Jan 02
R. TalbotPRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3, 7-14 and 17-20 as follows:

A1
3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein in step b) numbers of photon counts $\{n_i\}$ subject to determination of a distribution $\hat{P}(n)$ are derived from numbers of photon counts in primary time intervals $\{N_j\}$ by summing up numbers of photon counts from primary time intervals according to a predetermined rule.

A2
7. (Amended) A method according to claim 3 wherein in step b) a set of distributions $\hat{P}(n)$ is determined according to a set of different rules, said set of distributions being fitted jointly in step c).